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On page 5, lines 7 - 12, the Board states:

At column 5, lines 50-52, in the discussion of another embodiment of the invention therein, Kanemitsu discloses that a member having a configuration like that seen in Figure 4 may be formed by beginning with a disc-like steel plate (e.g., Fig. 3), which may then be bent and formed into a flanged cup shape, as in Figure 4.

Here again too much is assumed. What Kanemitsu describes in these lines of column 5 is quite different than is assumed. If this description is followed, the steps would not resemble claim 5 at all. Kanemitsu instructs us to first form the "final thickened portion 12" and thereafter bend the formed plate into the cup shape in a manner not disclosed. Why is it assumed that a reverse teaching can yield claim 5? The Board never tells us.

This RCE has been filed for the purpose of conducting an interview with the examiner to discuss the points raised above and to explore the possibility of achieving an allowance of claims 5 and 6 along with claim 8. At the interview, further amendments to claim 5 can be considered. These further amendments to claim 5 can be presented to the examiner before the interview. Also, since Mr. Kanemitsu is a co-inventor of the invention disclosed and claimed in U.S. Patent No. 5,396,787 and the invention disclosed and claimed herein, a declaration from Mr. Kanemitsu and Mr. Oda can be presented which will state that the configuration of Fig. 4 of the '787 patent was not intended to be formed as is the member of the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,


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